

begin a new century, people tend to look back nostalgically, examining what life was like in the good old days. In America at the turn of the last century, only one out of seven homes had a bathtub, one in thirteen had a telephone. Today, every home not only has a telephone, but also more than two televisions per household. Undeniably, the technology that we use in our everyday lives has changed a great deal over the last hundred years, but I believe that the values we hold dear remain constant.

This fact was reinforced for me when I recently re-read a copy of the graduation address to the Wentworth Military Academy graduates of 1900. The speech was given by a then prominent young Lexington lawyer, Horace Blackwell, a graduate of Wentworth High School ten years earlier, a member of the Class of 1890. As you may know, the junior college was not added to Wentworth until 1923. From reading the speech I was reminded of Mr. Blackwell's enormous talent as an orator.

I knew Mr. Blackwell. He was successful in his profession and a leader in his church and in civil affairs. He signed my application to become a member of the Missouri Bar, and I was a pall bearer at his funeral in 1956. I can still visualize him, early in the morning at the barber shop for his daily shave, wearing his black suit, his celluloid collar, and his maroon bow tie.

In Mr. Blackwell's address on that June day over one hundred years ago, he advised the graduates to adopt two American values that have stood the test of time and are still important to us.

The first was "be courageous."

The dictionary defines courage as "the state or quality of mind or spirit that enables one to face danger with self-possession, confidence, and resolution; bravery."

Horace Blackwell said that being courageous "is half the battle." This institution has produced many so filled with courage. From the Wentworth ranks we can find a Medal of Honor recipient as well as a four-star general.

The cornerstone of our country has been courage: Those who sailed from Europe and landed at Plymouth Rock, those who established the colonies, those who fought in our revolution, those who moved west into the uncertainties and dangers of the wilderness, those inventors and industrialists who did not have the word "can't" in their vocabularies, those who fought at Chateau Thierry, like Wentworth's late Colonel J.M. Sellers Sr., in the First World War, those who stormed the beaches of Normandy and Tarawa in the Second World War, those who fought the spread of communism in Korea, those who braved the jungles of Vietnam, those who fought the Iraqi Army just ten years ago.

The other value Horace Blackwell charged the graduates to adopt was to "be industrious". Blackwell stressed the importance of hard work, work that involves not only the body but also the brain. The steady industriousness of the American people has led our nation to become the bastion of freedom in this world and the greatest civilization ever known.

Some students think that once they leave school, there will be no more reading assignments. That's not true in my office. In fact, when new staffers come to work for me, a story entitled "A Message to Garcia" is required reading. This story tells the tale of a fellow named Rowan. During the Spanish American War, Rowan was asked by President McKinley to take a message to an insurgent leader in Cuba named Garcia. Nobody knew where in the wilderness Garcia was hiding, no mail or telegraph message could reach him. But Rowan took the letter,

and without complaint, without asking how or why, embraced his assignment and set out to find Garcia, which he did.

The story says that it isn't so much book-learning that young people need, but a "stiffening of the vertebrae which will cause them to be loyal to a trust, to act promptly, to concentrate their energies: do the thing—"Carry a message to Garcia!" This persistence and industriousness will take a person far in life.

It is interesting to note that Horace Blackwell's lessons on being courageous and being industrious were not lost on his two sons. Both became prominent attorneys in Kansas City, one of them becoming the President of the Missouri Bar Association and the other a recipient of the Silver Star in World War II. Both sons were junior college graduates of this school.

In addition to Mr. Blackwell's counsel which I pass along to you, a new generation, I would like to give you a few more words of advice.

My friend, the late Congressman Fred Schwengel, told me about meeting then-Senator Harry S. Truman in 1935 while Schwengel was a college student in Missouri. Truman advised him that to be a good American, "... you should know your history."

Knowing the lessons of history will serve you well, just as it did for Truman during his Presidency. At the end of the day, we as Americans must face stark realities. The world is far more dangerous than ever before. The end of the Cold War has fostered instability in regions heretofore unheard of. American diplomacy and the military will be called upon to keep the peace, settle disputes, and defend our interests. Americans will be challenged to the best that is in us.

But America needs more than military might and diplomats. America needs strength on the home front. Strength of character, strength in civic affairs, and strong communities. The core of America—its heart and soul—needs to be just as courageous and industrious as those on the front lines of international affairs. America must fulfill its potential to be a great civilization that is respected by the peoples of all countries.

Your years at Wentworth have taught you American values, and as you graduate and enter another phase of your life, it is my hope that you will take your place as so many other Wentworth graduates have, bearing the banners of courage and industriousness that will pave the way for you and for a brighter future for our country and peace-loving nations.

As you go forth in life, I charge you to: take responsibility for your actions; be honest and direct in your dealings with others; humble in your demeanor; thoughtful and considerate of others; loyal to your friends; devoted to your family; determined in your endeavors; know the history of our country; appreciate humor; proud of the uniform you wear; and love America.

Keep in mind one more thought. President Truman, who once visited this campus in the 1950s, liked to tell the story about the grave marker in Tombstone, Arizona, that read, "Here lies Jack Williams. He done his damndest." Missouri's President always strived to do just that—to do his damndest—that is, to do his best. So I charge you to heed the wisdom of that epitaph by doing your damndest. By doing so, your dedication will ensure that American freedom continues to shine like a polestar in the heavens.

Congratulations, and God bless.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ANTHONY QUINN

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2001

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the contributions of the late actor Anthony Quinn. Mr. Quinn, who died of respiratory failure on June 3, 2001, is remembered by the people of the 31st Congressional District and beyond for his outspoken stance on social justice issues and his positive portrayal of Mexican and Native American people.

Anthony Rudolph Oaxaca Quinn was born in Chihuahua, Mexico, to parents of Irish, Mexican, and Native American heritage who fought in the Mexican Revolution with Pancho Villa. His family fled to the United States when Anthony was an infant and settled in California after a short stay in El Paso, Texas. Prior to moving to East Los Angeles at age 6, Anthony worked alongside his parents picking fruit in California's Central Valley, earning 10 cents an hour. In part due to this experience, Mr. Quinn appreciated portraying the plight of working-class people. The Quinn family home in East Los Angeles is now the parking lot of the Anthony Quinn Library—located in the 31st Congressional District.

Mr. Quinn was not only a gifted actor, he was also a writer, artist, and political activist. After the 1942 "Sleepy Lagoon" trial, in which 22 Mexican youths from East Los Angeles were wrongly convicted of murder following a gang killing, Mr. Quinn helped to raise funds for an appeal. Years later, the accused young people were finally declared innocent.

Mr. Quinn earned two Oscars as best supporting actor, the first in 1952 for "Viva Zapata!" and the second in 1956 for his portrayal of painter Paul Gauguin in "Lust for Life." Mr. Quinn identified strongly with two cultures, the Mexican and the Irish, but could not be categorized as only representing those nationalities. His diverse background and appearance allowed him to play a wide range of characters from varying nationalities, including his most memorable as a Greek peasant in "Zorba the Greek."

On behalf of the 31st Congressional District, I recognize Mr. Quinn's contributions to both film and social justice causes and extend my condolences to his family and friends.

TRIBUTE TO THE OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE EMPLOYEES

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2001

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the outstanding community service, charitable giving and volunteer efforts of the management and employees of the Outback Steakhouse franchise in Saginaw Township, Michigan.

While the Outback Steakhouse is widely known for its excellent food and original atmosphere, bringing its special brand of land-down-under hospitality to the American culture, the local franchise and its dedicated workers also actively support numerous non-